**REMARKS** 

The Examiner has required the submission of information pertaining to any use of

the claimed invention known to the inventors at the time the application was filed and the

submission of any information pertaining to the claimed invention being offered for sale

or actually sold prior to March 16, 2000.

In response, Applicants provide a declaration, which is attached hereto, which

responds to the Examiner's request for information. This declaration demonstrates that

the invention was neither offered for sale nor publicly used before March 16, 2000.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully solicit favorable consideration of

the pending claims, and the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned if any question

or comments arise.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37

By:

C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any

overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1283.

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Respectfully submitted,

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